

Amendments to the Specification:

At the beginning of page 1, after the title and prior to paragraph 1, please insert the following paragraph:

-- This is a continuation of US Patent Application Serial No. 09/574,734, filed May 5, 2000. -
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Replace the paragraph 0007 with the following:

[0007] The present invention provides a method for detecting *H. pylori* in fecal specimens which comprises:

- (a) dispersing a fecal specimen suspected of carrying *H. pylori* in a sample diluent;
- (b) contacting the fecal specimen in the diluent with a first antibody reactive with *H. pylori* antigen to form a complex of the antibody and the antigen;
- (c) separating said specimen from said complex;
- (d) exposing the complex to a second antibody reactive with said antigen, a portion of the antibody reacting with said complex, one of said first and second antibody being selected from the group consisting of polyclonal *H. pylori* antigen specific antibodies, a plurality of monoclonal *H. pylori* antigen specific antibodies and mixtures thereof and the other being a *Helicobacter* or [Camplobacter] Campylobacter genus specific monoclonal antibody, one of said first and second antibody being bound to a solid carrier and the other being labeled with a detection agent; and
- (e) detecting the amount of the labeled antibody and in turn determining the presence of *H. pylori* antigen in said fecal specimen.

Replace the paragraph 0009 with the following:

[0009] The immunoassay of the present invention employs genus specific monoclonal antibody to *Helicobacter* or [Camplobacter] Campylobacter on one side of the assay and a *H. pylori* specific antibodies on the other side of the assay.

Replace the paragraph 0010 with the following:

[0010] The genus specific monoclonal antibodies used herein can cross-react with different species and strains of *Helicobacter* or [Camplobacter] Campylobacter. In this regard the genus specific monoclonal antibodies can also be referred to as "genus directed" monoclonal antibodies. Genus specific monoclonal antibody for *Helicobacter* or [Camplobacter] Campylobacter can be obtained commercially. Examples include the following monoclonal antibodies obtained from BIODSIGN International of Saco, Maine 04072:

clone no P101 (IgG2a)(Cat. No. C45101M)

clone no P102 (IgG2a)(Cat. No. C45102M)

clone no. 7102 (IgG1) Cat. No. C84102M)